

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 27 and ending at page 15, line 17 as follows:

As is well known, a statistical N-gram language model produces a probability estimate for a word given the word sequence up to that word (i.e., given the word history H). An N-gram language model considers only (n-1) prior words in the history H as having any influence on the probability of the next word. For example, a bi-gram (or 2-gram) language model considers the previous word as having an influence on the next word. Therefore, in an N-gram language model, the probability of a word occurring is represented as follows:

$$P(w|H) = P(w|w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{(n-1)}) \quad (1)$$

where w is a word of interest:

w<sub>1</sub> is the word located n-1 positions prior to the word w;

w<sub>2</sub> is the word located n-2 positions prior to the word w;

and

w<sub>(n-1)</sub> is the first word prior to word w in the sequence.

Also, the probability of a word sequence is determined based on the multiplication of the probability of each word given its history. Therefore, the probability of a word sequence (w<sub>1</sub> . . . w<sub>m</sub>) is represented as follows:

$$P(w_1 \dots w_m) = \prod_{i=1}^m (P(w_i^{20} / H_i)) \quad (2)$$

$$P(w_1 \dots w_m) = \prod_{i=1}^m (P(w_i | H_i)) \quad (2)$$